

App. Serial No. 10/701,882
Atty. Docket No. R029 1380

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

21. (currently amended) A combination shipping and dispensing carton, comprising:
a bottom panel;
a top panel;
a first side panel adjacent to the bottom panel and to the top panel;
a second side panel adjacent to the bottom panel and to the top panel, the second side panel having a box fold line;
at least one first end flap closing a first end of the carton;
at least one second end flap closing a second end of the carton;
a first plurality of tear lines extending through the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the top panel; and
a second plurality of tear lines extending through the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the top panel, wherein
the first and second pluralities of tear lines at least partially define an opening flap in the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the top panel,
the opening flap is wider in the bottom panel than in the first side panel, and
when the opening flap is opened, the carton can be formed into first and second side-by-side dispensers by folding the second side panel along the box fold line,
the first plurality of tear lines comprises a first side panel tear line that extends toward the top panel,
the second plurality of tear lines comprises a second side panel tear line that extends toward the top panel, and

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the first and second side panel tear lines converge toward one another as they extend toward the top panel.

Claim 22 canceled.

23. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 ~~22~~, wherein:
the first plurality of tear lines comprises a first bottom panel tear line;
the second plurality of tear lines comprises a second bottom panel tear line; and
the first and second bottom panel tear lines diverge from one another at a location adjacent to the first side panel.

24. (previously presented) The carton of claim 23, wherein:
the first plurality of tear lines comprises a first top panel tear line;
the second plurality of tear lines comprises a second top panel tear line; and
the first and second top panel tear lines extend substantially parallel to one another in the top panel.

25. (previously presented) The carton of claim 24, wherein the first and second bottom panel tear lines converge toward each other at a location adjacent to the second side panel.

26. (previously presented) The carton of claim 25, comprising:
a cut line in the second side panel connecting the first and second pluralities of tear lines,
the cut line and an opening flap fold line defining a starting flap in the second side panel.

27. (previously presented) The carton of claim 26, wherein:
the top panel comprises a first top flap and a second top flap; and
the first plurality of tear lines and the second plurality of tear lines extend through the first top flap and the second top flap.

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28. (previously presented) The carton of claim 24, wherein the first top panel tear line is approximately the same distance from the first end of the carton as the second top panel tear line is from the second end of the carton.

29. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 22, wherein the dispensers are of approximately the same size and configuration.

30. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 22, wherein:
the top panel comprises a first top flap and a second top flap; and
the first plurality of tear lines and the second plurality of tear lines extend through the first top flap and the second top flap.

31. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 22, further comprising:
an opening flap fold line connecting the first plurality of tear lines to the second plurality of tear lines, wherein the box fold line extends from a point adjacent to the opening flap fold line.

32. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 22, wherein the at least one first end flap closing a first end of the carton comprises:
a first side end flap; and
a second side end flap.

33. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 22 and a plurality of pouches therein, wherein the first and second dispensers are capable of displaying the pouches in an upright position.

34. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 22, further comprising:
an opening flap fold line connecting the first plurality of tear lines to the second plurality of tear lines, wherein the box fold line extends from a point adjacent to the opening flap fold line.

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35. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 ~~22~~, comprising:
means for closing the end flaps.

36. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 ~~22~~, wherein the at least one first end flap closing a first end of the carton comprises:
a first side end flap; and
a second side end flap.

37. (currently amended) The carton of claim 21 ~~22~~ and a plurality of pouches therein, wherein the first and second dispensers are capable of displaying the pouches in an upright position, and wherein the plurality of pouches are arranged in a first row on a first side of the carton, and a second row on a second side of the carton, the rows of pouches overlapping at tops of the pouches.

38. (previously presented) A method of displaying items, comprising:
providing a carton according to claim 21 and a plurality of pouches arranged in a first row on a first side of the carton, and a second row on a second side of the carton, the rows of pouches overlapping at tops of the pouches;
removing the opening flap; and
folding along the box fold line until a first portion of the second side panel abuts a second portion of the second side panel, wherein tops of the pouches extend from tops of the dispensers.

39. (currently amended) A combination shipping and dispensing carton and a plurality of pouches, the carton comprising:
a bottom panel;
a top panel;
a first side panel adjacent to the bottom panel and to the top panel;
a second side panel adjacent to the bottom panel and to the top panel, the second side panel having a box fold line;
at least one first end flap closing a first end of the carton;

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at least one second end flap closing a second end of the carton;
a first plurality of tear lines extending through the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the top panel, the first plurality of tear lines comprising:
a first side panel tear line;
a first top panel tear line; and
a first bottom panel tear line;
a second plurality of tear lines extending through the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the top panel, the second plurality of tear lines comprising:
a second side panel tear line;
a second top panel tear line; and
a second bottom panel tear line, wherein the first and second side panel tear lines converge extend toward the at least one top panel and converge toward one another as they extend toward the top panel; and
an opening flap fold line connecting the first plurality of tear lines to the second plurality of tear lines, wherein
the first and second pluralities of tear lines and the opening flap fold line at least partially define an opening flap in the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the top panel,
the opening flap is wider in the bottom panel than in the first side panel,
the box fold line extends from a point adjacent to the opening flap fold line,
when the opening flap is opened, the carton can be formed into first and second side-by-side dispensers of approximately the same size and configuration by folding along the box fold line, and
the plurality of pouches are arranged in a first row on a first side of the carton, and a second row on a second side of the carton, the rows of pouches overlapping at tops of the pouches.

40. (previously presented) The carton of claim 39, wherein:
the first and second top panel tear lines extend substantially parallel to one another in the top panel; and

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the first and second bottom panel tear lines diverge from one another at a location adjacent to the first side panel.

41. (previously presented) The carton of claim 40, wherein the first and second bottom panel tear lines converge toward each other at a location adjacent to the second side panel.

42. (previously presented) The carton of claim 40, comprising:
a cut line in the second side panel connecting the first and second pluralities of tear lines,
the cut line and the opening flap fold line defining a starting flap in the second side panel.

43. (currently amended) A blank for forming a combination shipping and dispensing carton, comprising:

a bottom panel;

a first side panel foldably connected to the bottom panel;

a first top flap foldably connected to the first side panel;

a second side panel having a box fold line;

a first plurality of end flaps extending along a first marginal area of the blank;

a second plurality of end flaps extending along a second marginal area of the blank;

a first plurality of tear lines extending through the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the first top flap; and

a second plurality of tear lines extending through the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the first top flap, wherein

the first and second pluralities of tear lines at least partially define an opening flap in the bottom panel, the first side panel, and the first top flap, and

the opening flap is wider in the bottom panel than in the first side panel,

the first plurality of tear lines comprises a first side panel tear line that extends toward the top panel,

the second plurality of tear lines comprises a second side panel tear line that extends toward the top panel, and

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the first and second side panel tear lines converge toward one another as they extend toward the top panel.

Claim 44 canceled.

45. (currently amended) The blank of claim 43 44, wherein:
the first plurality of tear lines comprises a first bottom panel tear line;
the second plurality of tear lines comprises a second bottom panel tear line; and
the first and second bottom panel tear lines diverge from one another at a location adjacent to the first side panel.

46. (previously presented) The blank of claim 45, wherein:
the first plurality of tear lines comprises a first top flap tear line;
the second plurality of tear lines comprises a second top flap tear line; and
the first and second first top flap tear lines extend substantially parallel to one another in the first top flap.

47. (previously presented) The blank of claim 45, wherein the first and second bottom panel tear lines converge toward each other at a location adjacent to the second side panel.

48. (previously presented) The blank of claim 45, further comprising:
a cut line in the second side panel connecting the first and second pluralities of tear lines,
the cut line and an opening flap fold line defining a starting flap in the second side panel.

49. (previously presented) The blank of claim 45, wherein the first top flap tear line is approximately the same distance from the first marginal area as the second first top flap tear line is from a second marginal area.

50. (previously presented) The blank of claim 45, further comprising:

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a second top flap foldably connected to the second side panel, wherein the first plurality of tear lines and the second plurality of tear lines extend through the second top flap.

51. (previously presented) The blank of claim 45, further comprising:

an opening flap fold line in the second side panel connecting the first plurality of tear lines to the second plurality of tear lines, wherein the box fold line extends from a point adjacent to the opening flap fold line.

52. (previously presented) The blank of claim 43, further comprising:

an opening flap fold line in the second side panel connecting the first plurality of tear lines to the second plurality of tear lines, wherein the box fold line extends from a point adjacent to the opening flap fold line.